that the people have been requesting the Government very often for the provision of a playground? Therefore, will the Government expedite the work and provide a playground for the school?"

THE HON. SRI K. RAJARAM :—" Yes, Sir. That is why a Special Officer has been posted for expediting acquisition proceedings."

Construction of bridges across the Sonnehalla and Thattahalla in Kollegal taluk.

* 415 *Q.*—SRI S. C. VIRUPAKSHIAH : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there was any proposal to construct bridges across the Sonnehalla and Thattahalla on either side of Hanur in Kollegal taluk; and

(*b*) if so, the present stage of the proposal?

THE HON. SRI K. RAJARAM :—" (*a*) Yes, Sir.

" (*b*) The works have been included in the five-year plan of road development and they will be taken up for execution by the Coimbatore District Board in due course."

SRI S. C. VIRUPAKSHIAH :—" Will the Government take into consideration that these rivers cut the road which is the only means of communication in this taluk?"

THE HON. SRI K. RAJARAM :—" That is why that work is included in the Development Programme and it will be taken up in the due course."

Payment of land-tax by Government to Municipalities for vacant lands.

* 418 *Q.*—SRI T. ANANTA PAI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state whether the Government have been paying land-tax to any municipality for vacant lands belonging to the Government?

THE HON. SRI K. RAJARAM :—" Yes, Sir."

SRI T. ANANTA PAI :—" May I know why the vacant land tax has not been paid to the Udipi Municipality?"

THE HON. SRI K. RAJARAM :—" Vacant land, though under the strict interpretation of the Madras District Municipalities Act means land not occupied by or adjacent or appurtenant to buildings and not used exclusively for agricultural purposes, will ordinarily mean vacant sites fit for construction of houses or other buildings. It is not the intention of the Act to levy tax on all kinds of vacant and poramboke lands belonging to Government from which no income is derived by Government."

SRI T. ANANTA PAI :—" Repeated representations have been sent by the Municipality of Udipi that, without this tax being

[26th March 1954

paid by the Government which it has taken into account, the Budget would not be balanced. May I know how the Government have disposed of that application? ''

THE HON. SRI K. RAJARAM :—'' When there is no income from the land to the Government, how can the Government pay any tax? ''

SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN :—'' Do not vacant lands in municipalities belong to municipalities? ''

THE HON. SRI K. RAJARAM :—'' Not all lands, but lands vested in the municipalities belong to the municipalities.''

SRI M. PALANIYANDI :—'' ஸார், கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் பதில் சொல்லும்போது நிலங்களிலிருந்து வருமானம் வராததின் காரணமாக அவைகளிடமிருந்து வரி வாங்கவில்லையென்று சொன்னார்கள். அதே போல நிலங்களிலிருந்து விளைச்சல் இல்லாவிட்டாலும் அவைகளுக்கும் வரி வாங்காமல் இருப்பார்களா ? ''

THE HON. SRI K. RAJARAM :—'' Only as far as the Government are concerned, this principle is adopted, and it is provided in the Act itself.''

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—'' According to the answer given by the Hon. Minister, if the Government could not derive any income from the vacant lands, they do not see any reason why they should pay municipal tax to the municipality. Does not the same rule apply to individuals who live in the City of Madras possessing a number of acres of vacant land but who are made to pay tax through their noses? Will the Government come to the aid of these private owners on the same principle as they are adopting for themselves? ''

THE HON. SRI K. RAJARAM :—'' That is not the point. There is no probability of any income being derived from the land under reference. If necessary, the Government will come forward to vest that particular land in the municipality itself. As for the Udipi Municipality, the Government have already addressed the Collector whether the lands may be alienated to the municipality.''

Export of jaggery by Marketing Federations.

* 394 Q.—SRI N. K. PALANISAMI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether jaggery is allowed to be exported by the Jaggery Marketing Federations of this State?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—'' There are no jaggery Marketing Federations in Madras State. The question therefore does not arise.''

SRI N. K. PALANISAMI :—'' கருப்பட்டி சுமார் எண்ணாயிரம் டன்களுக்கு மேல் வெளி நாடுகளுக்கு இங்கிருந்து அனுப்புவதாக பட்ஜெட்டில் சொல்லப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. கருப்பட்டி மட்டுமல்ல. அதைப் போலவே நம் நாட்டு கைத்தறித் துணிகளுக்கும் வெளி நாடுகளில் நிறைய கிராக்கி இருக்கிறது. இருந்தாலும் மத்திய சர்க்காருக்கும், நம் சர்க்காருக்கும் இவ்விஷயத்தில் சரியான உடன்படிக்கை இல்லாததின் காரணமாக